



U.S. Department
of Transportation

**Federal Aviation
Administration**

AGL-1 inf
Great Lakes Region
2300 East Devon Avenue
Des Plaines, IL 60018

NOV 25 2015

The Honorable Mike Quigley
House of Representatives
2458 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Quigley,

Thank you for your October 30, 2015 letter regarding O'Hare International Airport (ORD) flight operations observed by some of your constituents east of O'Hare.

As you state in your letter, the procedures in question do not violate safety regulations and are, in fact, routine air traffic control procedures that adhere to all applicable Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) operational and safety requirements. The FAA's mission is to provide a safe and efficient aerospace system, while also recognizing our environmental responsibilities. We know that striking a balance between operational considerations and environmental sensitivities of the surrounding community is often a challenging task.

The FAA has worked with, and continues to work with, the City of Chicago Department of Aviation (CDA) and the O'Hare Noise Compatibility Commission (ONCC) in an effort to address community noise concerns while also ensuring that O'Hare operates as safely and efficiently as possible at all times. As you are aware, CDA and ONCC are currently working together to explore various avenues to address community noise impacts. The FAA serves as a resource to that process and stands ready to provide technical input as requested.

The issue raised in your letter is a complex issue with many potential implications on aviation system users and on residents of communities surrounding O'Hare. The FAA looks to CDA and ONCC, as the leaders of the larger ongoing discussion on O'Hare noise, to determine what they specifically wish to examine, and in what order, to address O'Hare noise concerns.

The FAA has enjoyed and appreciates a collaborative relationship with your staff on a variety of issues. If your staff would like to further discuss with FAA the subject of your October 30, 2015 letter, please do not hesitate to contact me at 847-294-7294.

Sincerely,

Original Signed by

Barry D. Cooper

Barry D. Cooper
Regional Administrator
Great Lakes Region

Enclosure
Transmitted Correspondence

cc: Ginger Evans, Commissioner, Department of Aviation, City of Chicago